

March 3  
1932

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'  
MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

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*"We have our Relief Society, the great national organization, than which there is nothing in all the world better, an organization that contributes, not only to the intellectual and spiritual welfare of its members, but also to the desires in their hearts to reach out and benefit and bless those who are in need, as the name implies."*—GEORGE ALBERT SMITH.

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THE RELIEF SOCIETY

DR. FRANKLIN S. HARRIS

PRESIDENT OF THE BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

SINCE the early days of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, women have played an important part in all that has been accomplished. By the fundamental philosophy of the Church, woman is placed side by side with man as a co-worker, a helpmate, and a companion. She is considered his equal in capabilities and in destiny. The two are to go through life and eternity together, sharing joys and sorrows, each carrying part of the burdens and each receiving the merited part of the rewards.

Throughout the ages in many parts of the world woman has had difficulty in establishing equality with man in either rights or opportunities. Too often she was considered as man's servant, and as such she did not share his opportunities for education or liberty of action. She was surrounded with conventions which made her almost a slave without liberty to go beyond her own household and without opportunity to engage in occupations outside of a few household pursuits. The story of the emancipation of woman from the hampering limitations previously placed on her is one of the very interesting chapters in the development of western civilization. This emancipation has scarcely begun in the Orient, where it is still taken for granted that women are inferior to men and where they are just beginning to taste the first fruits of civic and economic liberty.

The Relief Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day

Saints was organized March 17th, 1842, by the Prophet Joseph Smith, in Nauvoo, Illinois. The Church at that time was only twelve years old, and this early recognition of women was in keeping with the spirit of the Gospel and the philosophy on which it is based.

From a small beginning, the Relief Society has grown and developed until it has become national and international in scope and influence. It has branches in forty-three of the forty-eight states of America, in Canada, Mexico, in most of the European countries, in Asia Minor, in South Africa and in the following Pacific Islands: Hawaii, Samoa, Tahiti, Tonga and in New Zealand and Australia. I have personally had an opportunity of observing the excellent work of the Relief Society in many of these foreign countries, and everywhere the same fine service has been found.

For its members, it has made provision for educational and welfare work, and for spiritual development, and has always sought to be a comforting influence and a stabilizer of individual and community morals.

The National Woman's Relief Society, as the organization is officially designated, is a charter member of the National Council of Women of the United States. The Society was invited to send representatives to the organization meeting of the International and National Councils in Washington in 1888 and in 1891. It became fully affiliated and it has since been a continuous, active member of the federation. Officers of the Relief Society have filled a number of important offices in the National Council.

The Relief Society is not, and never has been, merely a source of doles for those who are down and out. It has realized that the best charity is that which assists people to help themselves. In line with this point of view it has fostered any new work or industry that might give employment.

The Relief Society has always been on hand to render aid in case of any local or general emergency. If there is a death in any of the wards, Relief Society workers are among the first to offer their services in arranging for burial or in caring for the family. If a home burns down the Relief Society is on hand to help the destitute family find temporary shelter and aid them in establishing a new home. Where floods have swept away houses and covered fields and gardens, Relief Society workers have been veritable angels of mercy. In case of epidemics where professional health workers are taxed beyond their capacities, the Relief Society furnishes a powerful reserve since so many of its members have received some training in meeting situations of this

kind. These faithful women are prepared to marshal the entire resources of the community to aid those who are in distress.

The charity work is done in co-operation with the Bishops of the wards (or presidents of branches), but the members of the Relief Society are the real bulwark of strength.

One of the most important phases of Relief Society work is the course of study by which each member finds herself constantly engaged in studious activities. This means that practically every woman who is a member of the Church is an active student throughout her life.

Independent of any value the organization may have as an agency of relief to individuals on the outside, it is amply justified from its contribution to the lives of its members. Women who with advancing years might tend to be cut off from the activities of the world, find in the Relief Society a source of interesting and helpful activity and study. They may serve as Relief Society teachers, who each month visit the homes in their district to search out any special needs of the people and to bring comfort and cheer to all. If they are not teachers themselves they have a consciousness that they may at any time be visited by these teachers who come to inquire into their welfare.

Thus we see that the Relief Society of the Latter-day Saint Church is without doubt one of the greatest organizations for the promotion of effective charity and for adult education among women that can be found anywhere. It is one of the choice fruits of "Mormonism."—Excerpts from address delivered over the Radio, Salt Lake City, Utah, U. S. A., Sunday evening, January 24th, 1932.

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## GREETINGS TO RELIEF SOCIETY WORKERS

PRESIDENT LOUISE Y. ROBISON

MY BELOVED SISTERS: I have often heard that Conferences are the finest medium we have of holding interest in the Church. I believe this, and the joy we have in meeting again with our sisters, is beyond expression. I wish you knew how we appreciate you, and all the service that you have rendered.

Usually in making an address we want to leave the most thrilling thing to the last. But I am so eager to tell you some good news, that I am going to tell you first. For years we have been wanting a Handbook. Numberless appeals have come to us for something that would help women get started with the Relief Society work, and I am very happy to announce that we have now a perfectly wonderful Handbook. The committee, Counselor Amy Brown Lyman, and Sister Annie Wells Cannon, have been working on it almost day and night, because we have been so eager to have it ready for this Conference.

This Handbook contains full information pertaining to the history of the Relief Society. It has a sketch of the seven presidents, and information that has been compiled from all of our records that we have had since the beginning—how to conduct and what to do in all activities. It seems to us it is going to be a most wonderful help, especially to the new officers, and we feel it will be a tower of strength to our officers who are in charge. We hope you will use it as officers of the army use their rules. No matter how long an officer is in the army it is one of his requirements that he reads his rules every day. There are illustrations in it, a table of contents, and it is indexed and cross-indexed, so that you can easily find anything you wish.

For many years we have been using gold and white for our Society colours, but a very exhaustive search fails to discover any official word that these were really made the Relief Society colours. We love the old traditions of our organization and we were loath to give up gold and white, I think there was just a bit of sentiment about it, thinking the gold represented the wheat, but wheat is not really gold—we call it the “golden grain,” but when you take a piece of straw you find it is not really gold, but yellow. After much thought and discussion we decided to choose something distinctive, so now our official colours are gold and blue. I would like to know how many of you would like to have gold and blue instead of white and gold (vote unanimous).

Relief Society presidents, Relief Society work comes first, looking after the well-being of the people in your stakes is your first responsibility. Financing missionaries is not our work, neither is it our responsibility to build meeting houses. We can give support and cheer to the missionary and loved ones at home. I visited a stake not long ago, where the stake Relief Society president was in despair, because in one of her wards the women had been asked to turn over a large sum of money to the Bishop to build a meeting house, and the needy had been entirely neglected. I do not want to say anything against help you can render, but your first responsibility is to those who are in distress in your communities. If you will read the first minutes of the Relief Society you will find the real mission of the organization, and this has not been changed since. I do not know of any of the Authorities who have given us the mission of building meeting houses, or sending out missionaries. These activities belong to the Priesthood.

We would ask you to be careful about making expensive gifts. Some of our sisters report that beautiful gifts have been sent to other places, to other stakes and other institutions. That is all very well if everyone in your stake is looked after, and you have nothing else to do with the surplus. Co-operation is very fine, but have your ward president consult your stake president before anything is sent out of the stake. The stake knows what

its needs are. We have in all of our stakes, wards that are capable of taking care of themselves—not that they are any better people, or more industrious, but circumstances are more favorable for them. In that same stake there may be many poor, there are very few stakes in the Church where help is not needed in some of the wards.

I am deeply grateful to our Heavenly Father for His Spirit that has been here with us. There are no better people in the world than our Relief Society women, and now is the time for us to have added faith and to do extra work.

I beg of you sisters to have greater faith to call upon the Elders, and have faith in their administration. We need everything that can strengthen our faith. We need faith in our homes. Mothers must have faith to implant fine principles in the hearts of their children.

I pray our Father in Heaven to bless you women who are doing such a splendid work. I know your bodies are often weary, and I know you work just to the limit in taking care of those in your wards, but you remember the promise that was made to you, that your yoke would be easy, and I believe all of you could rise up and testify that it is made light and easy, and the Lord does not forget us.—Excerpts from addresses delivered at General Conferences during 1931, published in *The Relief Society Magazine*, Volume 18.

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## THE RELIEF SOCIETY'S SUPREME RESPONSIBILITY

AMY BROWN LYMAN

FIRST COUNSELOR IN RELIEF SOCIETY PRESIDENCY

WE are constantly being reminded by the General Authorities of the Church that the chief mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is to carry the Gospel message to the people of the world—to preach the Gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.

There are a number of Auxiliary organizations in the Church— aids and helps to the Church proper, and the question naturally arises—What are these Auxiliary organizations contributing to this great major project of the Church? And to us particularly, the question arises—What is the Relief Society contributing? And what are the individual members contributing to this great major project of the Church? Are they doing all they can to further this vital and important work?

A brief review of the work of the Relief Society will show, I believe, that it is making some rich contributions to the cause. It is doing this, first, by helping, as an organization, to spread the Gospel; secondly, by educating and training its members within the organization in religious and spiritual matters, and by

affording opportunity for them to participate in practical religious activities; thirdly, by contributions to the cause by individual members.

The Relief Society as an organization is helping to spread the Gospel at home and abroad, both directly and indirectly, by actually presenting the Gospel to investigators and prospective investigators; and indirectly by unconsciously carrying on its regular every day work, which is attractive to everybody.

The Relief Society is a great human organization, which is known and is operating both nationally and internationally. Its work is generally interesting—to students, to sociologists, to philosophers, to lay people. Its work is especially interesting to-day, for there has never been a time in the history of the world before when human welfare has received so much attention. The science of human relations and social justice has come into its own. In the second place the Relief Society gives its own members extensive opportunity for studying the Gospel, and also for practical religious demonstration through works. The welfare work is a demonstration of practical religion, and is in keeping with the teachings of the Scripture.

Let us consider next what Relief Society women, as individuals, are doing and may do in the Gospel cause. Relief Society women, and Latter-day Saint women generally, are bearing and bringing up the children, who form the great body of missionaries who carry the Gospel to the world. This is a great responsibility, and the better this work is done, the better the results. Every woman thrills with the thought of producing a son or a daughter who will carry the Gospel message.

One of the most effective things Relief Society women, and all Latter-day Saint women can do as individuals, is to live the Gospel in its entirety. It is a fine thing to teach the Gospel, and preach the Gospel, but it is better to live the Gospel, and this is much harder to do. *Example is always better than precept.*

I cannot think of a finer contribution Relief Society women can make to the Church than to conform in every particular to the Church standards. If we will do this we will each be making one of the greatest possible individual contributions to the Church.—(Published in *The Relief Society Magazine*, No. 11, Volume 18, November, 1931.)

## THE OUTLINED LESSON COURSE

JULIA A. CHILD

SECOND COUNSELOR IN RELIEF SOCIETY PRESIDENCY

WE have heard a great deal during this conference about the other division of our work, the charity, and the looking after those in need. That is a big part of our work, I realize, but there is also the other side, that which considers the edification and the

building up of the members, the educational work which has been in vogue for a long time. Educators themselves are looking at this subject a little differently than they did in years past. One of the significant changes in attitude toward education is that which impels us to consider it as a continuous process during life. There was a time when we thought that education was just a preparation for adulthood, and when we grew up there was very little work outlined for us. To-day this has all been changed, and there are two important factors that are responsible for this. First, there is a new valuation placed upon education which associates learning more closely with our intelligence and our physical fitness; with our ability to do, and with our personality. Education is not so dependent upon facts we learn, nor upon principles from books and teachers. The sort of education of which I speak comes more from experience both in school and out of school, and continues just as long as we live and apply ourselves.

The second new and important factor is the discovery that we do not grow too old to learn, and that ability to learn increases with age and experience far beyond the dead line set in former days. This point of view is what concerns us as members of this great Relief Society. Women who are ripe in experience, and have reached middle age, may go on with profit studying and improving themselves.

The Relief Society, as an organization, is designed primarily to prevent suffering, and to help those who need help, but we must remember that this great organization is interested in the moral and spiritual welfare of all its members, and the citizenry in general. It has, therefore, provided a program of adult education for its membership.

It is very gratifying for us to receive word from all over the Church as to how helpful these outlined courses of study are to the members. A great deal of time is spent in preparing this work. Committees are at work all the time trying to find out what is the most suitable for the lessons. After they are prepared, they are read and censored by committees, and every precaution is taken that nothing will be sent out but that which will be of the most benefit to the workers.

The General Board feels that inasmuch as these outlines are sent out to the whole Church, to all of our associations, that we would like you, as officers and teachers and members, to follow the outlines just as nearly as possible, so that there will be harmony throughout our great organization. Of course you have to adapt them a little to your classes, but our desire is to have the courses followed as closely as possible. We feel there is strength in the fact that throughout the world all the women are studying the same work. Brother Brimhall, a year or so ago,

*(Continued on page 139)*

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1932

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EDITORIAL

WOMAN'S FAITH

WOMAN'S place in the Church of Christ is fixed. It is by the side of man, enjoying every privilege, sharing in every blessing, rising to the same glorious destiny.

The divine division of labour places upon man the Priesthood, with its attendant obligations and duties; and upon woman, the privilege of motherhood and the responsibility of fostering the ever rising generation. They, the man and the woman, labour together, each in an allotted sphere, for the consummation of the same eternal plan of salvation.

The law of common consent, by which the Church is guided, includes men and women. The votes of both are of the same ultimate force in determining Church support or policy. The principle of faith may be used as effectively by one as by the other. Neither is exempt from the requirement of obedience. The prayers of righteous women are heard and answered by the Lord. Neither man nor woman can rise to the highest possible destiny, alone; righteous men and women constitute the Church of Christ. There is no sex-war among the Latter-day Saints.

Under the banner of the restored Gospel, women have found a freedom that has given them an unknown courage. They have found themselves free to grow and increase in every worthy power; to wrestle with the Lord for the blessings of salvation; to follow in the footsteps of the Master by doing good to all; to use faith in accomplishing holy desires; to stand upon their own earth-won and heaven-given testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Was there ever a group of women with such faith as that possessed by the women of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints!

The story of Francisca Brodil, to be told in a coming issue of the *Star*, is an eloquent example of the power of a woman's faith. Sister Brodil, Czech by birth, blood and inheritance, was baptized into the Church in Vienna a year before the Great War broke out. After the war, she found herself widowed and with two young daughters in her native country in Prague. While rearing her daughters for useful service in the world, she and they, the only members of the Church in the city, never failed to pray insistently that missionaries might be sent to teach the Gospel to their countrymen. Long years passed, a decade or more, but she continued to use her faith. She understood the Gospel; she had rightful courage. She modestly expressed her hope to the First



Presidency. Another wait. Then, at length, missionaries did come, a mission was opened—her persistent request had been granted. Sister Brodil is often spoken of as the woman who prayed a mission into existence.

Woman's faith! There is none greater. The women of modern Israel know that the Lord gives heed to their faith. May their mighty faith ever be used for righteous purposes!—W.

## OUR ANNIVERSARY

NINETY years ago on the 17th of March a modern Prophet gave to the women of modern Israel an organization whereby they may improve their own minds and souls, and become better Mothers and Home-makers as well as more useful Church members. Through the Society then organized the womanhood of the Church are able to grow in Truth and an understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as well as to assist their neighbours and administer sweet charity to those in need. The Relief Society, in the sense that it teaches all women, young and old, to improve their own conditions and to give intelligent help to neighbours and friends in improving theirs, is an active power for human advancement. Through participation in its program, all may become better parents, better neighbours, truer friends and more loyal citizens.

As members of the Relief Society in these European lands, shall not each unit be a focus of the spirit of good will and trust so much needed in this modern day—that the spirit of love and an understanding sympathy may permeate our homes and daily associations? We do all unite in thanking our Heavenly Father for the inspiration that guided the Prophet Joseph Smith to establish this powerful agency for world betterment; as the mothers of men are lifted and improved, to that extent may the race of men march onward.

We are grateful for our Relief Society, and hope always to prove our gratitude by our active interest in the entire Relief Society Program.—L. D. W.

## A HEARTFELT MESSAGE

MY DEAR SISTERS:

For nearly one year it has been my happy privilege to labour in the Relief Societies of the British Mission. Many of you earnest workers have become personal friends, and all of you are held in my heart as sister workers in a Great Cause. Our work is the greatest public activity ever entrusted to woman, for it comprises preparation for becoming better mothers and home-makers as well as more intelligent administrators of "sweet charity." It has been a deep joy to work with you in this up-building labour of love.

At this time of the anniversary of the date of founding our great Society, may we all unite in giving praise and thanks to our Heavenly Father for His great wisdom in giving us work to do in His vineyard, and the Organization which takes our mite of service and multiplies it into the mighty accomplishments of Relief Society throughout the world.

To you all, dear sisters, goes my prayer that harmony of purpose and understanding hearts may unite us as one in the pursual of our work throughout the coming year.

ELIZABETH T. WALLIS,  
Counselor in European Relief Society Presidency.

### GREETINGS FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

DEAR RELIEF SOCIETY SISTERS:

At this the Ninetieth Anniversary of the Relief Society, we, your sisters and co-workers, extend our hearty greetings to all Relief Society workers in the British Mission. It is in a spirit of love, peace and good-will that we thank you for the loyal support given to your leaders during the past year, and admonish you to continue on in your righteous endeavours.

It was on March 17th, 1842, when the Relief Society was brought into existence by the Prophet Joseph Smith. Many trying circumstances have befallen the Church during the past ninety years, and, if it were not for the willingness of these women to serve, disaster, undoubtedly, would have been the outcome. They have answered the call of the needy in all seasons of the year and in all kinds of weather, night or day. Service to the poor, hungry, fatherless and discouraged is one of the purposes of this organization; and with honour and credit have the women of the Church used their talent and influence in bettering humanity.

Much noteworthy work has been accomplished by the Relief Society sisters of Britain, during the past year (1931). Many homes have been visited wherein the sick have been comforted; material aid has been given worthy poor; wholesome recreation of the highest type has been sponsored by the Society; scores of new converts have been made, and the sisters themselves have grown in power and understanding of the Gospel principles, due to the activities of the organization. Such a worthy work is commendable and pleasing in the sight of both God and man.

This is the Lord's work and we are His instruments. If we are to keep pace with Church procedure and help further the Gospel cause, we must be ever ready to serve and use our initiative in helping to establish the Kingdom of God here upon the earth.

If there be difficult problems that arise, we will be very pleased to give you aid. Your joy is our happiness. When you are content, happy and growing in the work, we are at ease.

Strive diligently, dear sisters, in such a worthy cause, for the reward is great; ever look forward and see wherein you can help humanity, and success is unquestionably your lot, and a fulness of happiness will fill the life of every ardent Relief Society worker. Never tire in well-doing.

Cordially your Sister,  
 RINTHA PRATT DOUGLAS,  
 President of British Mission Relief Society.

## THE OUTLINED LESSON COURSE

*(Concluded from page 135)*

spoke on loyalty. He said, "Be loyal to the lesson outline. Condense it, expand it, but do not discard it. Loyalty to outline is loyalty to the organization that furnishes it. Study the outline with a view to making it sparkle." I would like to add that same thing. Study it and teach it to your class, your class teachers, but do not discard it.

The teacher's topic is now included in our course of study, and it is very necessary that it be studied, that the sisters may go in the homes and carry the message that is well prepared, and give it in an intelligent manner.

The committees are now at work on our next year's course of study, and we hope when we meet in April we will be able to tell you what is going to be given for next year's work.

We think it is a wonderful opportunity for improvement, and I hope you will take it, and use it as you would an extension course. Basil King says, "He who would go on living and not begin to die, must be willing to be taught, reaping the harvest of both youth and age."—(Published in *The Relief Society Magazine*, No. 11, Volume 18, November, 1931.)

## THE WORLD NEEDS LOVE

LEAH D. WIDTSOE

FOR nearly two thousand years the followers of the Man of Galilee have talked of peace, yet indulged in frequent carnages of destruction, with consequent disease and death of the flower of earth's manhood. The most bloody war the world has ever waged still lingers in the memory of those who are yet young; and the threats and warnings as well as preparation for the next war are already on the tongues of all the civilized countries of earth, while many of the darker races are "at each other's throats" this very moment. Yet, men crave peace and happiness as a flower craves water and sunshine, while those who find it are pitifully few. Why then, is it so remote?

Those who know history and understand human nature know that "Peace on Earth" will never be possible until nations and

people can be tolerant and cease to fear or mistrust each other. Nations can never cease to suspect each other until individuals and forces within each nation cease to fear and mistrust each other. Individuals will never be able to understand and tolerate their neighbour's differing views and aims until they have learned to love and trust and to understand with tolerance, those within their own family circle. And these valuable lessons may never be learned within the family until the mother has taught every child the real meaning of love and trust—for parents and for each other. The child who has been cuffed and beaten, whose rights have been ignored, whose natural love for father and mother has been turned into fear and dread, must grow up with a feeling of revenge and fear and mistrust of fellowmen. Such small beginnings become the seed of international warfare.

Thus the offender of the past, as the hope of the future, is the individual *Home*; and the keynote of home is the mother who leads the little child to love or to fear his fellows, to understand God and His precious Gospel truths or become the skeptic and outcast. Too much emphasis cannot be placed upon the need of love, of understanding, of encouragement, in the family circle of every individual home. The mother who is constantly "nagging" and finding fault with children or circumstances, cannot expect the child to love or respect her or to have peace and joy within the home. Love begets love; respect breeds respect; and parents must lead the way.

Probably no passage of Scripture has done more harm throughout the ages than the oft quoted excuse for parental ignorance and ill temper (which breeds cruelty): "Spare the rod, spoil the child." All children need wise discipline, and at times correction, but they need most to understand life and must be taught its lessons without fear or dread or hatred of anything but evil. No child ever had too much love and understanding; that does not "spoil" children any more than cruelty "sweetens" them. What does injure them is indulgence in their whims and follies and being left ignorant of law, with the liberty of infringing upon the rights of others, and living only for their own selfish pleasure and desire. That, and being punished for things not understood, or being beaten or humiliated because they do not act according to adult standards of life, cause children to grow up in bewilderment or resentment against existing conditions and with a feeling that some time they are going to "get even." What the child learns to do in the home, he practices in after life.

And how every child craves love and sympathy! It is easy to love and caress the tiny baby—who should not be fondled but left to rest in peace—but as the child grows older and needs love and encouragement, then it is too often entirely lacking. The older the child grows, the more it mingles with the cold, unfeeling world, the greater is its need of expressed love and appreciation

from parents and dear ones. The father must always be the guide and lead the way to righteousness in the family. The mother carries a mighty responsibility, because she cares for the child during its formative period—the most important of its entire life. Together they make home heaven or hell. Happiness and peace do not depend upon money or power, but upon the presence in the home of sympathetic understanding and encouragement of each to do his *best* no matter what the outward circumstances may be.

Mothers of Israel—what is your influence doing for the citizens of to-morrow? Do your children love you or fear you? Is there peace in your home—daily, hourly joy in life's labours, or are you allowing the seeds of discord, fear, mistrust and hate, to germinate, take root and grow till those who should be loved ones become strangers or enemies? Do not hesitate to let your children know that you truly love them; do not fail to speak your approval of the things they do well, and suggest ways of improvement instead of scolding them for not doing things as well as you could do them. Praise them often; blame them seldom; and they will find it much easier to merit your increasing approbation.

No country can ever build barriers so strong that they may not be overcome by another aggressor nation. No armament can persist in the world as protection against force. There is only one power that can do away with war and bloodshed, and that is the power of love and understanding of fellow man and trust in God as Heavenly Father. That power can germinate nowhere except in the homes of the nations—yours and mine, and every individual home as a unit. They are more potent for human good or ill than armies or navies, armaments or barriers, and all the war machinery of the highest civilization known to man. The mothers of the world can do more to do away with war than Disarmament Conferences or World Leagues. When love is the keynote of every home, war will be impossible!

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### MY TESTIMONY

I WOULD like to give my testimony of how I joined the Church. To me, it seems that I was directed by the hand of the Lord, through the spirit of my husband's mother, who was a member of the Church, but had passed away. At the time of her death I did not attend any place of worship, but afterwards, I could feel her presence ever near me.

At that time we were living in Manchester, but, through unforeseen circumstances, my husband and I moved to Barnsley and there began to attend different places of worship, but I could not find solace for my restless spirit. One day a traveling Elder

knocked at our door and I answered the call. When he made himself known to me I told him my husband's people were members of the Church before they died. My husband, upon hearing our conversation, came to the door to speak with the Elder. He told him, that though he had not been baptized into the Church with the remainder of the family, if ever he joined any religious organization it would be the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Elder asked us to attend the Branch conference, but said that if it was inconvenient for us to do so, that he would visit us later on.

After this event I began asking my husband to take me to a Latter-day Saint meeting, which he did six months later. At the close of that meeting I told my husband that I had found that for which I had been searching for the past twelve months. I attended for four months, when it was announced that there was to be held a baptismal service. I awoke my husband one night from sleep and told him that I had seen his mother and she wanted us to be baptized. My husband, my eight-year-old daughter and myself were baptized on March 29th, 1924.

I have found great joy in being a member of the Church, and have attended all meetings possible. I was secretary in the Relief Society for four years. To me, it is the foremost organization of the Church, wherein we are taught to care for our physical as well as our spiritual bodies. This enables the mothers to rear strong, healthy children, who are to be the future generation. It is our privilege also to look after the unfortunate brother and sister who cannot attend the meetings, due to illness or like causes. This is where the duty of a Relief Society teacher lies, and to her it is a mission similar in service to the mission of the traveling Elders. We are to give spiritual help and encouragement; we also can help in making necessary clothing for the poor children, out of castoff adult garments, to enable the children attend Church and receive the blessings of the Gospel.

I know from experience that by trying to live the laws and ordinances of the Gospel that people are blessed; however, to those people often come the greatest trials. Through the Relief Society, we can help most by being kind and considerate, by making people feel that the Church has need of them and that the Lord has placed a trust in them that they should not dishonour.

If we as a Relief Society group will study our neighbours and do all the good we can without thought of personal glory; and send out our Relief Society teachers so they may get nearer to the hearts of the people, we shall grow and become one of the greatest missionary organizations in the Church. If people do not show their outward appreciation, do not be discouraged, for often those who feel the most, are truly grateful, and become the most ardent workers. I appreciate the help and the associations

I have received from the Relief Society sisters during my membership in the Church. It has strengthened my testimony, and I am glad I accepted the truth. I trust that the sisters in the Relief Society will be missionaries and further the work of the Lord and give others an opportunity of partaking of the blessings of the Lord, through helpful, uplifting companionship.

(Note: Will the author of the above please send in her name, and credit will be given in the next issue.—EDITOR.)

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## WHAT THE RELIEF SOCIETY HAS DONE FOR ME

THE Relief Society has taught me many things. One is humility of spirit, and high aspirations, to be carried out in a spirit of kindness and humility. We do get nearer to each sister when we are all working for one great cause. Then, ennobling thoughts inspire us to carry our ideas into action. You benefit yourself by being kind; you help others by your kind thoughts and deeds. I am grateful for the kind thoughts and high ideals which have always been set before the members of the Relief Society for their development, growth and service to humanity.

MRS. A. F. ERSKINE, SCOTTISH DISTRICT.

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## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**Appointment and Release:** On February 10th, Elder James B. Beesley was transferred from the Sheffield District to the British Mission Office, to act as Sunday School Supervisor for the British Mission.

**Transfers:** On February 18th, the following missionaries were transferred to the Districts specified: C. Leigh Miller, Newcastle to Liverpool; W. Burke Jones, Liverpool to Bristol; William Lamar Phillips, Birmingham to Bristol; Frank S. Naylor, Bristol to Liverpool, and Abner W. Snarr, Bristol to Birmingham. On February 19th, Elder Frank R. Miller was transferred from the Ulster to Welsh District.

**Releases and Departures:** The following missionaries have been honourably released from their labours in the British Mission and have departed for their homes in America: Glen T. Dixon, Sheffield, Manchester and London Districts, released on February 6th; Richard M. Cowan, Manchester and Portsmouth Districts; Leon Whiting, Liverpool and Welsh Districts, and Alma B. Knapp, French Mission, Welsh and Birmingham Districts, released on February 14th, and sailed on the *President Roosevelt*, from Southampton, on February 18th.

**Doings in the Districts:** *Nottingham*—A very well prepared Sunday School social was conducted in the Hucknall Branch, Nottingham District, on the evening of February 20th. It was well attended and the spirit of recreation was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

*Ulster*—On Tuesday, February 16th, the Relief Society and M Men organizations combined their forces and held one of the most successful socials of the year. There were fifteen couples in attendance. Refreshments, a treasure hunt and games, all contributed to the success and enjoyment of the evening's entertainment.

## WOMAN

(DEDICATED TO THE WOMEN OF THE SALT LAKE STAKE RELIEF SOCIETY)

In her sphere the noblest work of God is woman,  
 As a help-mate in the great redemptive plan ;  
 Standing side by side they form a perfect being—  
 God in embryo—the woman and the man.  
 Nobly she has play'd her part through all the ages,  
 Filled her niche in life as only woman can ;  
 Shared the burden, she with him in joy and sorrow,  
 Up the hill together, ever in the van.

When the light of truth was hidden by transgression,  
 Man in blindness failed to recognize true worth ;  
 She was forced to serve and fill a lowly station,  
 Darkness, aye gross darkness, covered all the earth.  
 But the shadows lifted as they lift at dawning,  
 When to man again was giv'n the Gospel light,  
 Woman took her rightful place as man's companion,  
 Standing by him there in all her regal right.

To what heights shall she attain in this relation ?  
 What can stay her in the ages yet to come ?  
 As a mother she has laid a sure foundation,  
 As companion and co-builder of the home.  
 Queen on earth she is, then why not queen in heaven ?  
 Are there bounds to which she cannot sometime rise ?  
 If she follows in the light that has been given,  
 Her reward is sure—the everlasting prize.

ALFRED M. DURHAM.

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LIVERPOOL